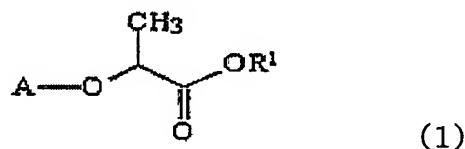
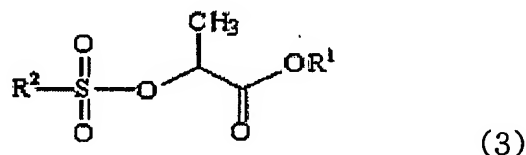


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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for preparing optically active (R)-aryloxypropionic acid ester derivatives represented by the following Formula 1 by reacting phenol derivatives
 5 represented by the following Formula 2 and (S)-alkyl O-arylsulfonyl lactate represented by the following Formula 3 in the presence of alkali metal carbonate in an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon solvent under the temperature range of 60 to 100°C:



wherein water formed during the reaction is continuously removed, and

wherein R¹ is a C₁₋₆ -alkyl or benzyl group; R² is a C₁₋₆ -alkyl, phenyl group, or a phenyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ -alkyl or a C₁₋₆ -alkoxy group; A is an aryl
 15 group selected from the group consisting of a phenyl group, a naphthyl group, a quinoxazolyloxyphenyl group, a benzoxazolyloxyphenyl group, a benzothiazolyloxyphenyl group, a phenyloxyphenyl group, a pyridyloxyphenyl group and a pheyloxynaphthyl group, wherein said aryl group can be substituted with 1-3 functional groups selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a
 20 nitro group, a nitrile group, an acetoxy group, a C₁₋₄ -alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ -haloalkyl group, a C₁₋₄ -alkoxy group, and a C₁₋₄ -haloalkoxy group.

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2. In Claim 1, said hydrocarbon solvent is selected from the group consisting of toluene, xylene, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, methylcyclohexane, cycloheptane, *n*-hexane, and *n*-heptane.

5 3. In Claim 1, said solvent is cyclohexane or xylene.

4. In Claim 1, said method for preparing optically active (R)-aryloxypropionic acid ester derivatives is performed using potassium carbonate as a base in cyclohexane as a solvent at 80°C.

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5. In Claim 1, the water is removed by using a flask equipped with a cooling condenser and Dean-Stock.